

NIXON ORDER

KENNEDY, 20 Others

get security guard

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WASHINGTON — The Secret Service has reacted to the Wallace shooting by extending protection, on President Nixon's orders, to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), Rep. Wilbur Mills (D-Ark.) and Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-N.Y.).

But it is resigned to the fact that when a presidential candidate chooses to go into a crowd he risks the same consequence which overtook Gov. George Wallace—even when attended by Secret Service agents.

This is what Asst. Treasury Sec. Eugene T. Rossides, who has charge of the Secret Service, told reporters a few hours after Wallace was shot.

NO GUIDELINES are laid down for the candidates, according to Rossides. However, they are fully briefed by the agents assigned to them and "they understand the problem."

The agents cannot tell a candidate not to go into a crowd, he observed, even though it is a dangerous thing for him to do.

Rossides declined to discuss how many agents are provided in the detail assigned to give round-the-clock protection to a candidate. He acknowledged that it is an expensive operation, costing from \$185,000 to \$200,000 a month per candidate.

UNDER a law passed after the Robert F. Kennedy assassination in 1968, Secret Service protection has been provided since March 20 to Wallace, Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), George McGovern (D-S.D.), Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.) and Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash).

The Secret Service did not see any need to increase the number of agents assigned to each candidate as a result of the attack on Wallace, he said. "The number of agents involved would not make any difference in such a situation where a candidate goes into a crowd," he said.

What was considered essential was the assigning of protection to candidates not covered to date, according to Rossides. He noted that the

law states that only major candidates can qualify for the protection.

REP. CHISHOLM has previously asked for and been refused protection. Treasury Sec. John Connally also had ruled that Kennedy and Mills failed to qualify.

Many persons regard Kennedy as a candidate but he could not qualify because he refused to declare himself a candidate.

M o n d a y night, however, agents began guarding all three of the legislators.

OF ALL the candidates, Wallace was the most security conscious. Until the Secret Service took over his protection, he was guarded by a contingent of the Alabama State Police.

He continued to have six state troopers as his personal bodyguards after the Secret Service assumed responsibility for him.

Wallace's concern for security was so great that he had a steel-plated lectern built from which to speak behind at major rallies.



Mrs. Wallace kneels sobbing over her husband moments after he was shot. The dark spot on his shirt is blood from the stomach wound. (Photos from CBS News film)